

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stefan Williams on 02/03/2011.

**In Claim-12, Line-1, AFTER 'comprise' INSERT - metal coated—**

**In Claim-13, Line-1, AFTER 'comprise' INSERT - metal coated—**

The amendment overcomes 112 issues and conditions the application for allowance.

#### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- Claims 1-15, 17 and 20-29 are allowed as amended.

Applicant's amendment filed on 11/22/2010 with the arguments has been fully considered that overcomes the rejections cited in the last office action. Claims 1-5, 17 and 20-29 were indicated to be allowable in the last office action. An updated search was carried out that did not result in any new prior art that either teaches or fairly suggest applicant's article containing functionally graded nanocomposite comprising a combination of the specific composition, components, structure and characteristics, and a method of making the nanocomposite by a combination of method steps and components processed therein.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KALLABELLA VIJAYAKUMAR whose telephone number is (571)272-1324. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 07-3.30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley Silverman can be reached on 5712721358. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1736

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KMV/  
February 03, 2011.

/Stanley Silverman/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1736